

✓ Claim 18, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 17" and insert  
--claim 1--.

✓ Claim 19, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 18" and insert  
--claim 1--.

✓ Claim 20, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 19" and insert  
--claim 1--.

✓ Claim 22, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 21" and insert  
--claim 1--.

✓ Claim 23, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 22" and insert  
--claim 1--.

✓ Claim 24, lines 1 and 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 23" and insert  
--claim 1--.

~~✓ Claim 26, line 2, please cancel "any one of claims 1 to 25" and insert --claim~~

~~1--.~~

### REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to cross reference the parent application and have amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application and to delete the improper use claim 27. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/GB99/03127, of which the present application is the continuation. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449

In view of the above amendments to the claims, an early action on the merits is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: Richard E. Fichter  
Richard E. Fichter  
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Phone: (703) 683-0500  
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

REF:kdd  
PA01.wpd

October 4, 2000